

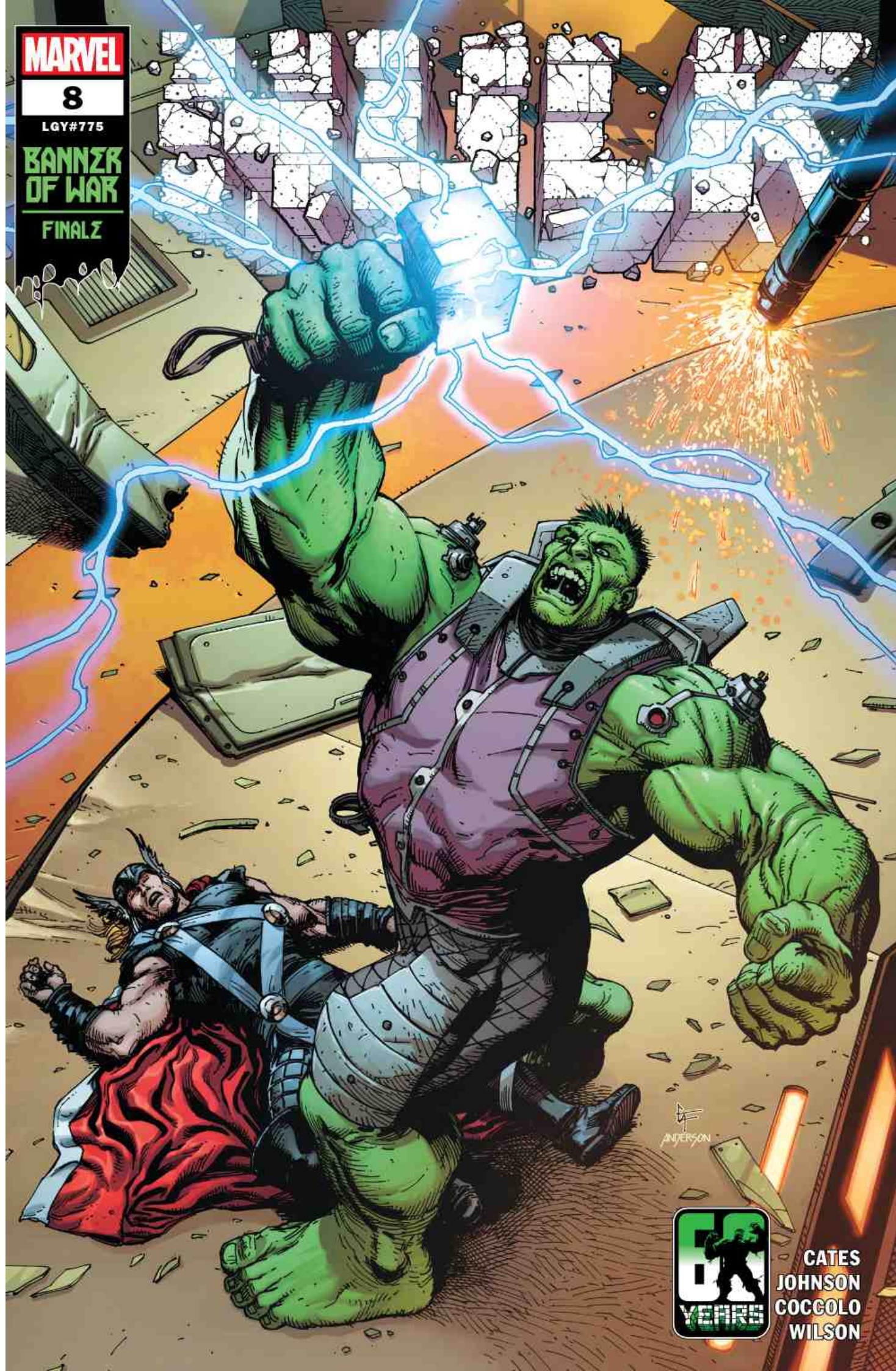
MARVEL

8

LGY#775

**BANNER
OF WAR**

FINALZ



ANTHONY
ANDERSON



**CATES
JOHNSON
COCCOLO
WILSON**

Tim Sale | 1956 - 2022

Tim Sale left us on June 16, 2022. He was a master storyteller. Through his artwork, he created mood, movement, expression and especially, how to take you through each page, panel by panel. He loved comics, baseball, movies, music, noir, food, his dogs and, most of all, Susie and his legion of fans from all over the world. He was kind and funny and an inspiration as to how to live one's life.

Bon voyage, my pal.

JEFF LOEB



HULK has recently undergone a dramatic transformation. His alter ego, Bruce Banner, has split the Hulk into three distinct parts: The Hulk's body has been turned into a starship. Banner's psyche pilots it from within the Hulk's mind. And the Hulk's psyche fuels the starship with his anger.

THOR is the king of Asgard, having recently taken over for his father, Odin. He is struggling to balance his role as the All-Father with his role as one of Earth's mightiest heroes on the Avengers. Recently Odin died in battle and his spirit now inhabits Thor's hammer, Mjolnir.

HULK VS. THOR BANNER OF WAR

PART FIVE OF FIVE

After **HULK** was accused of murdering a bar full of patrons in El Paso, Texas, **THOR** set out to apprehend him, leading to an all-out brawl between the two titans in the far depths of space.

During their battle, Odin's spirit entered Hulk's mind and connected with Bruce's memories, revealing that a mysterious, dark force called Titan had seized control of Bruce's body in El Paso and killed the bar's patrons.

Iron Man joined Thor in his battle, but things took a disastrous turn when Hulk set off a massive explosion that infused Thor with gamma. The now Hulked-out God of Thunder set off on a rampage, forcing Iron Man to retreat and resulting in the destruction of the Rainbow Bridge.

Left with no other option, Odin made a deal with Banner to try to subdue his enraged son. Now a gamma-irradiated Thor faces off against a Mjolnir-wielding Hulk!

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THE
QUESTION.



THE QUESTION
ASKED FOR DECADES
PAST AND...SHOULD THE
UNIVERSE SURVIVE
THIS DAY...

...TO BE
DEBATED FOR
CENTURIES TO
COME.

I...AM **UATU**.
SWORN TO WATCH
IN PASSIVE OBSERVATION
AS HISTORY'S GREATEST
MOMENTS UNRAVEL IN
THE FACE OF
ETERNITY.

AND HERE,
I PRESENT TO
YOU...

...THE
QUESTION...

...ANSWERED
AT LAST...



"WHO...IN A BATTLE
TO THE DEATH...
WOULD WIN?"



"THOR, THE GOD
OF THUNDER.
THE ALL-FATHER..."

"OR HULK? THE
STRONGEST ONE
THERE IS. THE
WORLD BREAKER."

"TODAY, THAT QUESTION
WILL BE ANSWERED..."



BANNER!
GET US TO
ASGARD!

YOU KEEP
SAYING THAT LIKE I CAN
JUST FLY US THERE! HOW
CAN I GET THERE IF THOR
JUST BROKE YOUR
RAINBOW BRIDGE?

BESIDES,
NOT SURE IF
YOU NOTICED...

"...HOWEVER, AS
WITH ALL THINGS..."

...I'M
A LITTLE
OCCUPIED!

YOU DON'T
REALLY THINK I'VE
GIVEN MJOLNIR TO
YOU SO THAT YOU
CAN STRUT ABOUT
IN ARMOR AND
LIGHTNING,
DO YOU?

BELIEVE IT
OR NOT, BANNER.
MY SON OFTEN HOLDS
BACK DISPLAYING THE
SHEER SCOPE OF
MJOLNIR'S POWER.

BUT I...
AM NOT MY
SON.



"...THE ANSWER
WILL COME..."

"BEHOLD!!!"



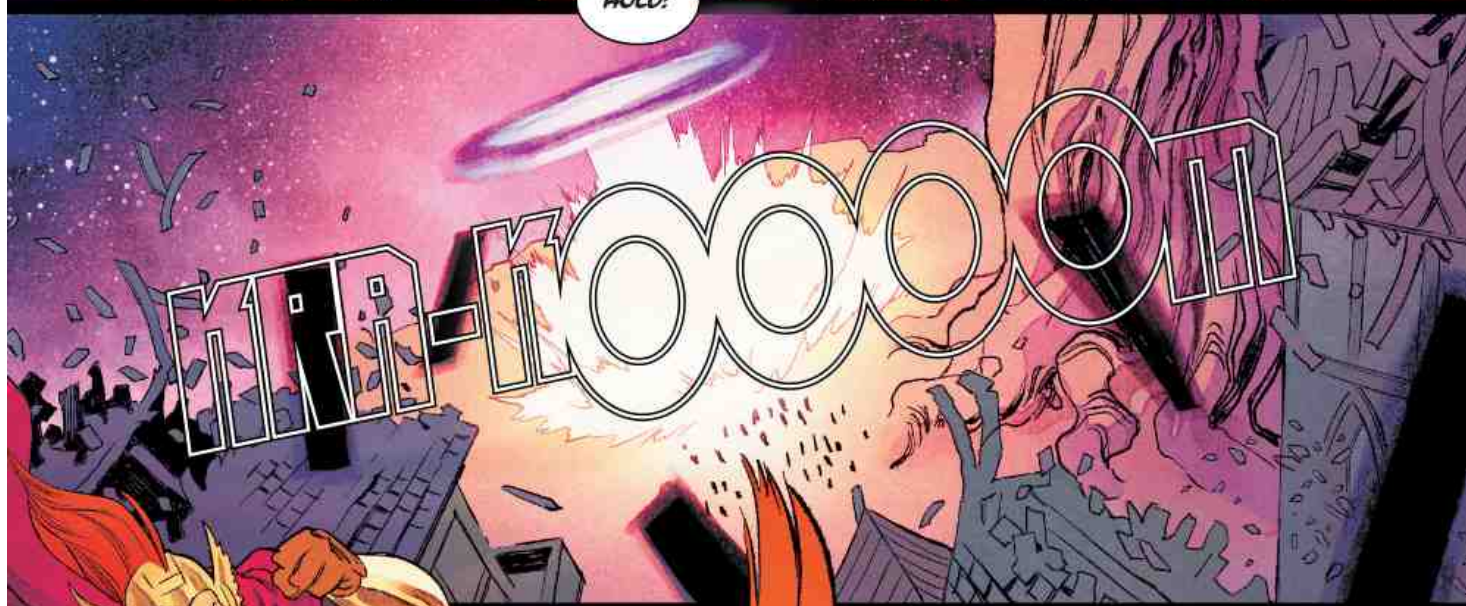
"...WITH A
PRICE."

"THE BIFROST
MAY BE GONE.
AYE..."



"BUT
ASGARD..."

"ASGARD
REMAINS."





"IN THE PAST, WHEN THEY HAVE FOUGHT..."

"...HULK FACED THE AVENGER. THE HUMBLE AND NOBLE THOR."

BUT DO NOT FORGET...

...THERE WAS A REASON THOR WAS CAST DOWN TO MIDGARD.

TO LEARN HUMILITY. TO LEARN HONOR.

TO LEARN TO WIELD HIS POWER...WITH MERCY.



"BUT NOW...HULK FACES NOT JUST THE MIRROR OF HIS OWN RAGE..."

"...BUT A RAGE THAT HAS BEEN HELD BACK FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS."



"A POWER... THIS WORLD HAS NEVER SEEN."

"IN THE PAST, WHEN THEY HAVE CLASHED... THOR BELIEVED, TRULY IN HIS HEART, THAT SOMEWHERE INSIDE OF THE HULK..."



...THERE WAS A MAN. AN ALLY. A WARRIOR WORTHY OF FORGIVENESS.



"OF MERCY."

"BUT NOW...IF THOR IS TRULY UNLEASHED... IF HE SEES NO MAN INSIDE OF THAT BEAST..."

"...HULK WILL
FINALLY LEARN..."

"...WHAT IT
IS TO FIGHT
A GOD..."

RAGHHH!!!

"THERE! NOW'S
OUR CHANCE!"

RAAAAGHHH!!!

THOR
SM--

PUSH
HIM INTO
YGGDRASIL.
THE WORLD
TREE WILL BURN
THIS MADNESS
OUT OF HIM.

AGHH!!!

DAMMIT.
BOY...



OKAY...I, UH...I PUSHED HIM INTO THE TREE.

IS THAT... IT? IS IT OVER? OR--?

YOU...YOUR MONSTER. IT IS FUELED BY RAGE. YOU SAID IT YOURSELF.

AND YET HERE YOU ARE--IN CONTROL OF THAT MADNESS. YOU HAVE LEARNED TO CAGE IT. TO LET IT FUEL YOU INSTEAD OF CONTROL YOU...

FOR NOW, YES. BUT YOU DIDN'T ANSWER MY--

YOUR BATTLE MAY BE OVER...

...BUT FOR **THOR**...RIGHT NOW WE ARE USING THE UNITED POWER OF **EVERY REALM** IN THE KNOWN AND UNKNOWN UNIVERSE TO **CAGE** HIS MADNESS...

"ALL OF THE VOICES OF THE ELDERS WHISPERING TO HIM, GUIDING HIM BACK TO THE GOD THAT HE IS..."

"ALL OF THE MAGICS AND ENCHANTMENTS KNOWN TO THE RUNES AND FATES TO LEECH THIS FURY FROM HIS SOUL..."

"ALL OF THIS..."

...AND I...

...I DON'T THINK IT'S ENOUGH.







GREAT
HEL...

IF HE
DOESN'T STOP...
WE'RE TALKING THE
END OF REALITY.
WE'VE GOT TO
CALM HIM
DOWN.

WHAT COULD
WE POSSIBLY DO
TO END THIS...
MADNESS?



IT MIGHT
BE TIME FOR
LESS FORCE...



"...AND MORE
WORDS."

GRAHHHGGG!

WAAWAAWAA



my
son!



IT IS
I...
...YOUR
FATHER...



IT IS ODIN.

GRUH?



I... I AM SORRY, MY SON. NOT ONLY FOR YOUR MANY TROUBLES... BUT FOR WHAT I HAVE DONE AS WELL.

I KNOW I HAVE NOT ALWAYS BEEN KIND TO YOU. I HAVE MADE MANY MISTAKES.

TOO MANY.

BUT THROUGH IT ALL, DESPITE MY FAILURES, DESPITE OUR DIFFERENCES... I MUST REMIND YOU...

I STILL LOVE YOU, SON.



HRAH!

IF YOU WOULD, MY BOY... ALLOW ME TO DO WHAT ALL FATHERS ARE CALLED ON TO DO FOR THEIR SONS:



HELP THEM WITH THEIR BURDENS.



AND RELIEVE
THEM OF THEIR
WOES.



UNH!

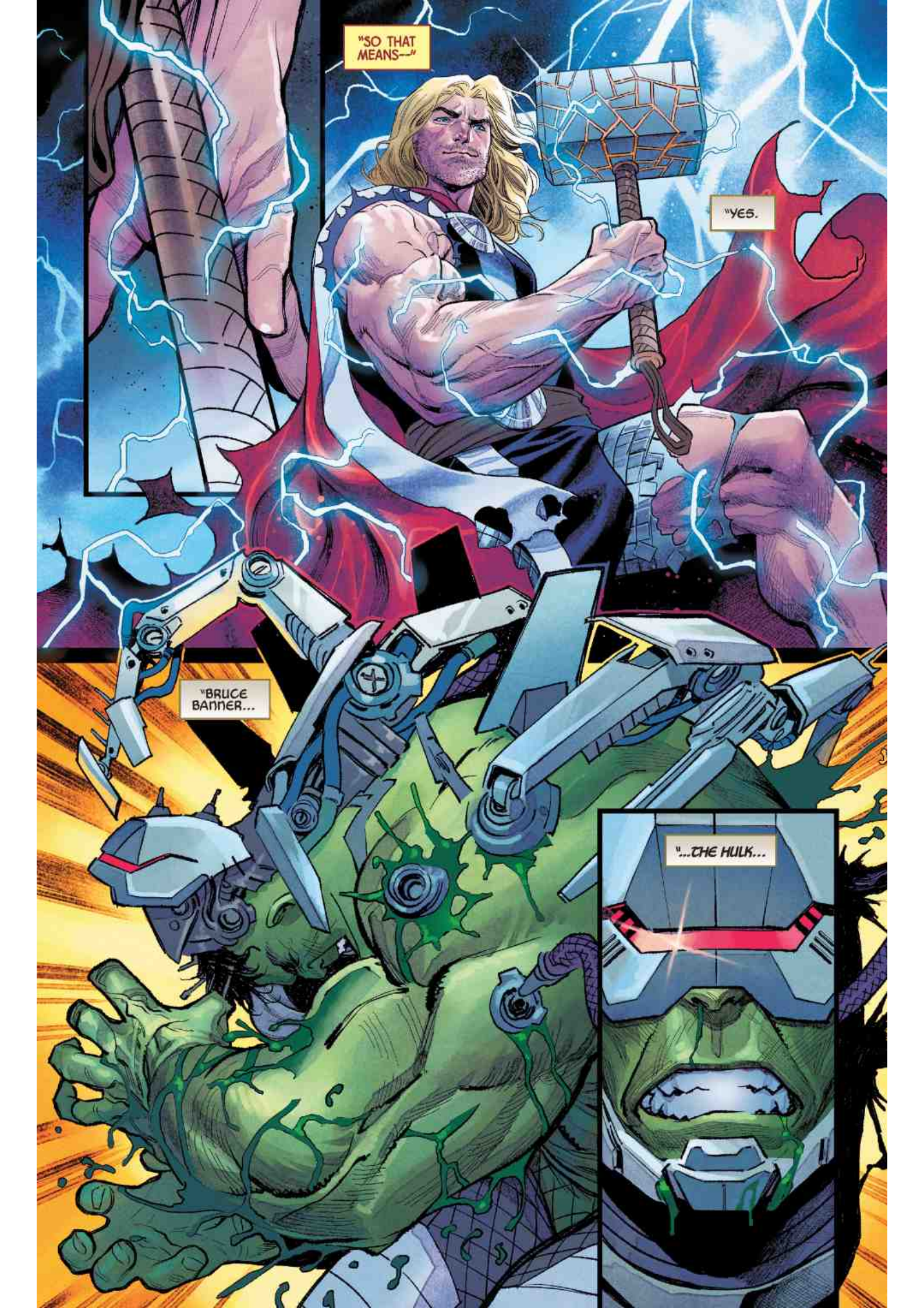


"THAT BLAST, IT KNOCKED ME RIGHT OUT. WHAT HAPPENED IN THERE, THOR? WHERE IS HULK?"

"FRIEND STARK, THE MAGIC WITHIN MJOLNIR WAS ABLE TO REMOVE MY GAMMA AND RESTORE THE WORLD TREE."



"BUT THE RESULTING EXPLOSION OF ENERGY WAS TOO MUCH FOR ALL BUT A GOD TO WITHSTAND..."

A comic book panel showing Thor with long blonde hair, wearing a blue and silver tunic with a red cape, holding his hammer Mjolnir. He is looking down at the Hulk's destroyed armor, which is a complex of grey and blue mechanical parts. The Hulk's green skin is visible, splattered with green liquid. The background is a bright blue sky with white lightning bolts. The scene is set against a backdrop of a large, grey, cylindrical structure, possibly a part of a city or a machine.

"SO THAT
MEANS--"

"YES."

"BRUCE
BANNER..."

"...THE HULK..."



"...IS
DEAD."

"I CAN'T
BELIEVE IT..."





AAAWAAH!!

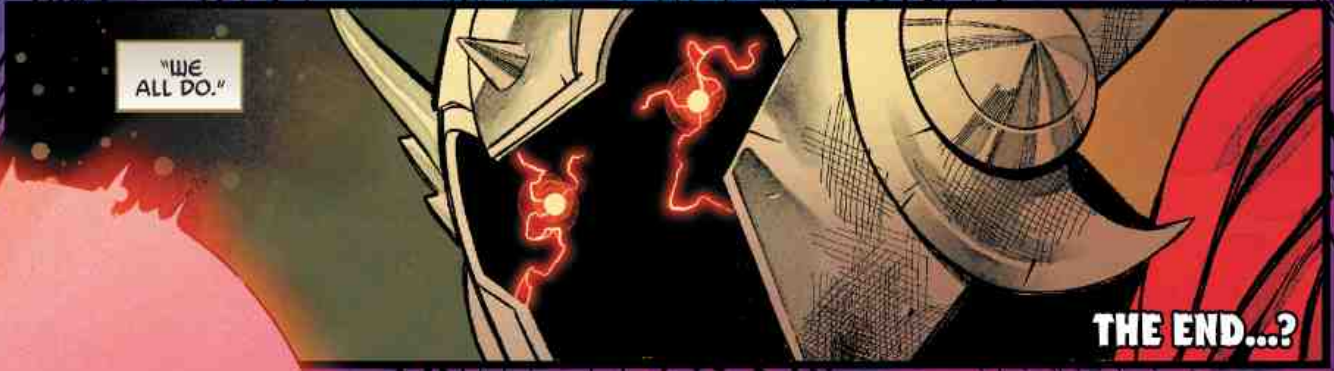




"I SHARE
IN THOSE
THINGS MORE
THAN I WISH.



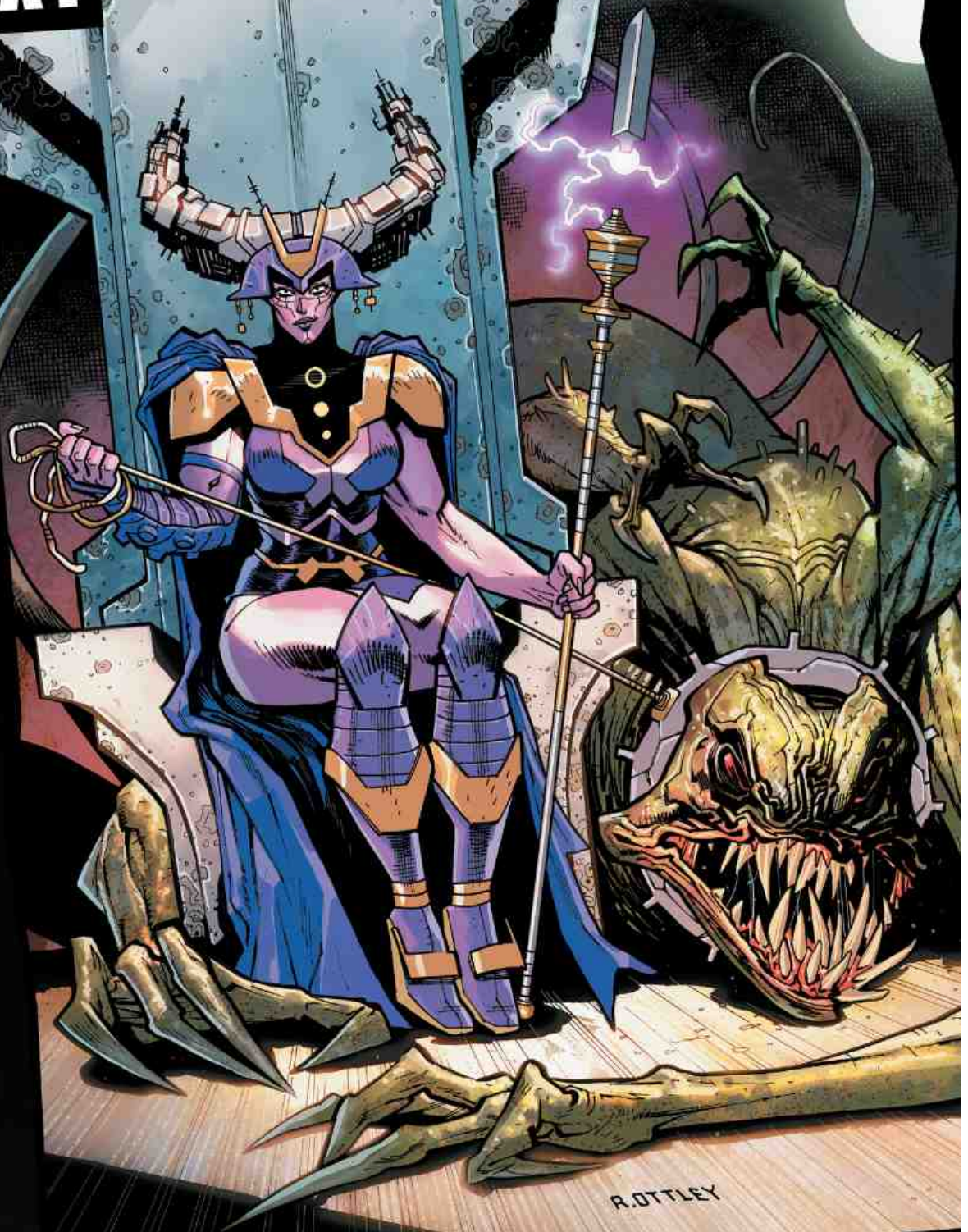
"SO I MUST RESPECT
HIS WILL. AND MAYBE
SOMEDAY...HE SHALL
FIND HEALING AS WELL.
HE DESERVES IT.



"WE
ALL DO."

THE END...?

NEXT



RYAN OTTLEY returns as he and DONNY CATES kick off their next big epic: "HULK PLANET"! Now that the Avengers believe Bruce Banner is dead, he retreats farther into the Bleed, hoping to finally find the freedom and peace he's been longing for--and a solution to the Titan problem. But maybe isolation isn't really what he needs? The mysterious and powerful MONOLITH seems to have other plans for the future of the Hulk!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! WRITE US AT
MHEROES@MARVEL.COM
AND MARK YOUR LETTER "OKAY TO PRINT"!

